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### Example 7: Frailing Banjo Style

“Howling of the Wood” is a haunting, evocative work that balances heroic virtuosity with humble plaintiveness. In this passage, Doyle evinces a frailing banjo sound by strumming the up-stem notes with the backs of his right-hand middle and index fingernails (in the folk guitar “brush” style) while playing the down-stem notes normally, with the thumb. Note the wind-in-the-wires, mountain flavor of the passage. If, in your finger brushes, you accidentally re-strike the 2nd-string thumb note, don’t worry; that sort of randomness is all part of the frailing ethic.

#### CELTIC COWBOY - Exercise 7

w/Open Gsus2 tuning:

⑥ = D    ③ = G  
⑤ = G    ② = A  
④ = D    ① = D

$\text{J} = 156$

1:34      Gm

strum  
w/thumb

T    3 5 0 0    0 0    3 5 0 0    0 0 | 3 5 0 0 5 3 0 1 0 0 0 0

A    0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0

B    0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0

\*Execute 16th notes by brushing down w/R.H. middle finger,  
then brushing up w/R.H. index finger.

### Example 8: Alternate Picking—Fingerstyle

This searing single-note passage is the stop-time tag from “Country Fried Pickin’.” Doyle executes the steady eighth notes just like a flatpicker would—observing strict alternate picking with downstrokes on the beat and upstrokes for the offbeat notes. Except that this is done fingerstyle, so he substitutes a thumb for the downstroke and an index finger for the upbeats. Note that this pattern is strictly observed, regardless of intervening slurs, like the pull-offs in measures 1 and 2.

#### COUNTRY FRIED PICKIN’ - Exercise 8

$\text{J} = 164$

2:20      N.C.(A7)

p i    i p i p i    i p i p i    i p p i p i    A

T    8 5 0    8 5 0    8 5 0 7 5 0    8 7 5 7 | 5 7 0 2 1 0 3 2 0

A    2 2

B    2 0

strum w/  
thumbpick